

--- 1/12th Pound - “Series of 1883” - BLACK - 250/253 x 14 mm. ---

John McKay records that 1,500,000 copies of “1-12, Black Ribbon, Tobacco”, recess printed by *rotary press*, were ‘delivered’ under the **4th BABN Contract** (1886-1892). It seems to me that the initial strips were printed by *hand press*. He next lists 366,000 *hand press* strips ‘delivered’ in 1892-97. It is unlikely that these were from a manual late printing of the strip.

John McKay records that 366,000 copies of “1/12, Black Tobacco”, recess printed by *hand press*, and another 8,874,040 copies, recess printed by *rotary press*, were ‘delivered’ under the **5th BABN Contract** (1892-1897).

4th BABN Contract - October 22nd 1886	1,500,000 recess (hand press)	000001 to 1- 500000
5th BABN Contract - April 23rd 1892	366,000 recess (hand press)	1- 500001 to 1- 866000
	<u>8,874,040</u> recess (rotary press)	1- 866001 to 10- 740040
	10,740,040	

** Note: BABN *does not* record the million prefixes, but restarts the 1,000,000 control sequence at **999999** with **000001**. Keeping a control number listing, without having any dated strips, only helps to determining the relative scarcity of this item.

With 10,700,000 strips printed, the control number listing only provides an approximation of the abundance or scarcity of this item, and the control numbered order is not intended to indicate when they were actually printed. Any of the above strips, from the **5th BABN Contract**, could carry an unwritten prefix from 1- to 10- since the 1,000,000 control number sequence repeated ten times from **999999** by reset to **000001**.

It would seem to me that the 253 mm. strip 1-**963356** was printed on *horizontal* mesh wove paper by rotary press. The shorter 250 mm. strips printed on vertical mesh paper by hand press. Perhaps I am in error - and the shorter strips simply occur because they are printed on *vertical* mesh paper which shrinks upon drying.

The catalogue should list the *recess printed* Series of 1883 black 1/12th pound strips, with a “Montreal” sheet imprint, as follows:

- RP-440** - 1/12th pound, black, *coarse roulette*, on horizontal mesh wove - 250 x 14 mm.
RP-440a - 1/12th pound, black, *coarse roulette*, on horizontal mesh wove - 253 x 14 mm.
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--- 1/12th Pound - “Series of 1883” - BLACK - 4th BABN Contract (1886-1892) ---

--- Recess printed by hand press on vertical mesh wove - 250 x 14 mm - 4 mm blue controls ---

--- RP-440 - 1/12th pound - *coarse roulette* - scanned at 67% scale ---



RP-440 - 1/12th pound, black, coarse roulette, with 4 mm. control **400018** - stamped **CANCELLED** in 3 mm. Gothic

1- 053869	RP-440	1/12th pound, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
1- 072007	RP-440	1/12th pound, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
1- 381168 ★	RP-440	1/12th pound, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove - coded TOBACCO / 2-8
1- 400018 ★	RP-440 CP	1/12th pound, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove - suspect
1- 618827	RP-440	1/12th pound, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove
1- 829476	RP-440	1/12th pound, coarse roulette, on vertical mesh wove

--- 1/12th Pound - “Series of 1883” - BLACK - 5th BABN Contract (1892-1897) ---

--- Recess printed by rotary press on horizontal mesh wove - 253 x 14 mm - 4 mm blue controls ---

--- RP-440a - 1/12th pound - *coarse roulette* - scanned at 67% scale ---



RP-440 - 1/12th pound, black, coarse roulette, with 4 mm. control 1-**972049**,
Recess printed on vertical mesh wove paper, roller cancelled **TOBACCO / 2-8** by “B. Houde”, Quebec City

1- 963356 ★	RP-440a	1/12th pound, coarse roulette, <i>horizontal</i> mesh wove, coded TOBACCO / 1 – 20
1- 972007	RP-440a	1/12th pound, coarse roulette, <i>horizontal</i> mesh wove
1- 972016	RP-440a CP	1/12th pound, coarse roulette, <i>horizontal</i> mesh wove - suspect
1- 972049 ★	RP-440a	1/12th pound, coarse roulette, <i>horizontal</i> mesh wove

File path is [c:\CR - STAMPS\RP_STAMPS\1883\Black\1-12 pound - 250 mm],

In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,

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September/253 23rd 2013 - JBH